

day to rally around our children, and show them how important they are to us all. This will be a day of fun family activities, and togetherness, and of the power of individual action.

I have heard from many people around the country who cannot attend the event. I encourage you to support those at the Lincoln Memorial in your thoughts and prayers. I encourage every American to do at least one thing to make a difference in the life of a child, and June 1 would be a great place to start. If anyone wants more information on the Stand for Children event they can call 1-800-233-1200.

Anyone who is listening can make it easier for one child to get appropriate health care. Offer to provide child care or a ride to the clinic, so someone's child can go to a medical check-up or get immunized.

We all can help prevent health problems to avoid bigger costs later on. Anyone listing can volunteer to distribute information on health screenings, immunizations, or blood drives. Lead a safety committees or fitness day at the local park, school, or community center. Help to find or build affordable housing in your area.

You can stay educated and prepared about children's health. Read about childhood illnesses. Make a personal medical history for each member of your family, so you can be ready in the case of illness or trauma.

Nothing is more vital to a child than her basic health. A child must be healthy to learn well. She must be educated to participate and contribute to our society. But we must start with making sure we do everything we can for her basic well-being.

You will see me doing my best for the health of our children. Please join me in this critical effort.

FOREIGN OIL CONSUMED BY THE UNITED STATES? HERE'S THE WEEKLY BOX SCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, the American Petroleum Institute reports that for the week ending May 17, the United States imported 7,782,000 barrels of oil each day, 256,000 barrels less than the 8,038,000 barrels imported during the same week a year ago.

Americans relied on foreign oil for 54.9 percent of their needs last week, and there are no signs that this upward spiral will abate. Before the Persian Gulf war, the United States obtained about 45 percent of its oil supply from foreign countries. During the Arab oil embargo in the 1970's, foreign oil accounted for only 35 percent of America's oil supply.

Anybody else interested in restoring domestic production of oil—by U.S. producers using American workers? Politicians had better ponder the economic calamity certain to occur in America if and when foreign producers shut off our oil supply—or double the already enormous cost of imported oil flowing into the United States—now 7,782,000 barrels a day.

THE RETIREMENT OF CUMBERLAND LAW SCHOOL DEAN PARHAM H. WILLIAMS, JR.

Mr. HEFLIN. Mr. President, the long-time dean of Cumberland Law School of Samford University, Dr. Parham H. Williams, Jr., will retire on June 1, 1996. When he leaves his position at the Birmingham, AL, law school, he will have served a total of 25 years as a law school dean, 14 at the University of Mississippi and 11 at Cumberland. His tenure as a dean is such that his title has virtually become a part of his name. Even his grandchildren call him "Dean."

Dean Williams is widely known for his involvement in the legal community and his outstanding performance as an academician. He has strengthened Cumberland's program by recruiting a superb faculty which has added a diversity of talents and ideas. He oversaw the revitalization of the faculty through the development and implementation of sabbatical, promotion, tenure, and governance policies and procedures.

The size of its entering class was decreased by 15 percent at a time when the number of applications increased over 200 percent. As a result, the average admissions criteria have been raised to new heights. The academic excellence of the law school has also been enhanced through initiatives such as increased alumni involvement; the implementation of a broad continuing legal education program; the improvement of the advocacy program; the expansion of foreign study opportunities; the development of joint degree programs; the inauguration of the master of comparative law degree; and the internationalization of the law school by visiting faculty and foreign students.

Since taking over as dean on July 1, 1985, Dean Williams has helped secure a bright future for the law school by overseeing the largest funds development effort in its history. The endowment has increased from less than \$1 million to over \$4.2 million, resulting in 2 endowed chairs, 25 endowed scholarships, 8 annually-funded scholarships, and 6 special funds endowing lectures and other programs. The stature, beauty, and utility of the law school have been enriched by the construction of the Lucille Stewart Beeson Law Library.

Dean Williams earned both his bachelor of arts and law degrees at the University of Mississippi, in 1953 and 1954, respectively. In 1965, he received his LL.M. degree from Yale University. Before coming to Cumberland, the alma mater of both his parents—class of 1925—he served as a district attorney in his native Mississippi and as an associate professor, professor, associate dean, and dean at the University of Mississippi School of Law. His academic specialties are evidence, criminal procedure, criminal law, and professional responsibility.

The author of 9 law review articles and co-author of "Mississippi Evi-

dence," he has served as a commissioner of the law enforcement assistance commission and the national conference of commissioners of uniform State laws. He was chairman of the Governor's blue ribbon committee on corrections; the Governor's task force on tort reform; and the Mississippi Supreme Court advisory committee on rules.

As Dean Parham H. Williams, Jr., retires, he will be remembered for bringing the Cumberland Law School into the life of Birmingham and in Alabama more than ever before. His polished, Southern, and unfailingly pleasant manner have guided his actions and helped create an image of civility and learning. I am proud to congratulate him for the impeccable job he has done and for the outstanding legacy he leaves behind.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Thomas, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

REPORT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION ENTITLED "THE RETIREMENT SAVINGS AND SECURITY ACT"—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 150

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Finance.

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit today for the consideration of the Congress the "Retirement Savings and Security Act." This legislation is designed to empower all Americans to save for their retirement by expanding pension coverage, increasing portability, and enhancing security. By using both employer and individual tax-advantaged retirement savings programs, Americans can benefit from the opportunities of our changing economy while assuring themselves and their families greater security for the future. A general explanation of the Act accompanies this transmittal.

Today, over 58 million American public and private sector workers are covered by employer-sponsored pension or retirement savings plans. Millions more have been able to save through Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs). The Retirement Savings and Security Act would help expand pensions to the over 51 million American

private-sector workers—including over three-quarters of the workers in small businesses—who are not covered by an employer-sponsored pension or retirement savings program and need both the opportunity and encouragement to start saving. Women particularly need this expanded coverage: fewer than one-third of all women retirees who are 55 or older receive pension benefits, compared with 55 percent of male retirees.

The Act would also help the many workers who participate in pension plans to continue to save when they change jobs. It would reassure all workers who save through employer-sponsored plans that the money they have saved, as well as that put aside by employers on their behalf, will be there when they need it.

The Retirement Savings and Security Act would:

- Establish a simple new small business 401(k)-type plan—the National Employee Savings Trust (NEST)—and simplify complex pension laws. The NEST is specifically designed to ensure participation by low- and moderate-wage workers, who will be able to save up to \$5,000 per year tax-deferred, plus receive employer contributions toward retirement. The Act would encourage employers of all sizes to cover employees under retirement plans, and it would enable employers to put more money into benefits and less into paying lawyers, accountants, consultants, and actuaries.

- Increase the ability of workers to save for retirement from their first day on the job by removing barriers to pension portability. In particular, employers would be encouraged no longer to require a 1-year wait before employees can contribute to their pension plans. The Federal Government would set the example for other employers by allowing its new employees to begin saving through the Thrift Savings Plan when they are hired, rather than having to wait up to a year. In addition, the Act would reduce from 10 to 5 years the time those participating in multiemployer plans—union plans where workers move from job to job—must work to receive vested benefits. It would also help ensure that returning veterans retain pension benefits and that workers receive their retirement savings even when a previous employer is no longer in existence.

- Expand eligibility for tax-deductible IRAs to 20 million more families. In addition, the Act would encourage savings by making the use of IRAs more flexible by allowing penalty-free withdrawals for education and training, purchase of a first home, catastrophic medical expenses, and long-term unemployment. It would also provide an additional IRA option that provides tax-free distributions instead of tax-deductible contributions.

- Enhance pension security by protecting the savings of millions of State and local workers from their employer's bankruptcy, as happened in Orange County, California. The Act would (1) require prompt reporting by plan administrators and accountants of any serious and egregious misuse of funds; (2) double the guaranteed benefit for participants in multiemployer plans in the unlikely event such a plan becomes insolvent; and (3) enhance benefits of a surviving spouse and dependents under the Civil Service Retirement System and the Railroad Retirement System.

- Ensure that pension raiding, such as that which drained \$20 billion out of retirement funds in the 1980s, never happens again—by retaining the strong current laws preventing such abuses and by requiring periodic reports on reversions by the Secretary of Labor.

Many of the provisions of the Retirement Savings and Security Act are new. In particular, provisions facilitating saving from the first day on the job, in both the private sector and the Federal Government; the doubling of the multi-employer guarantee; and improving benefits for surviving spouses and dependents of participants in the Civil Service Retirement System and the Railroad Retirement System deserve special consideration by the Congress. In addition, many of the provisions and concepts in this Act have been previously proposed by this Administration and have broad bipartisan support.

American workers deserve pension security—as well as a decent wage, life-long access to high quality education and training, and health security—to take advantage of the opportunities of our growing economy.

I urge the prompt and favorable consideration of this legislative proposal by the Congress.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, May 23, 1996.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:19 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3068. An act to accept the request of the Prairie Island Indian Community to revoke their charter of incorporation issued under the Indian Reorganization Act.

H.R. 3259. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1997 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The message also announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 1965. An act to reauthorize the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bill was signed subsequently by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

The message further announced that pursuant to section 637(b) of Public Law 104-52 as amended by section 2904 of Public Law 104-134, the Speaker appoints the following Members on the part of the House to the National Commission on Restructuring the Internal Revenue Service: Mr. PORTMAN of Ohio and Mr. MATSUI of California; and as members from private life: Mr. Ernest Dronenberg of California, Mr. Gerry Harkins of Georgia, Mr. Grover Norquist of the District of Columbia, and Mr. George Newstrom of Virginia.

At 4:59 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hayes, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution:

S. Con. Res. 60. Concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment or recess of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

MEASURE REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent and referred as indicated:

H.R. 3068. An act to accept the request of the Prairie Island Indian Community to revoke their charter of incorporation issued under the Indian Reorganization Act; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following measure was read the first and second times by unanimous consent and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 3259. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1997 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-2704. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a final rule concerning the amendment to Class D and E2 Airspace and establishment of Class E4 Airspace (RIN 2120-AA66), received on May 13, 1996; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2705. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a final rule concerning the establishment of Class E Airspace at San Andreas, CA (RIN 2120-AA66), received on May 13, 1996; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2706. A communication from the Director of the Federal Bureau of Prisons, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of an interim rule concerning